(c) The Government has sufficient quantity of rice and wheat in Central Pool to meet the entire demand under Targeted Public Distribution System and Other Welfare Schemes.

Per Capita expenditure on foodgrains

†3607. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether per capita expenditure on food in the country has come down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether problem of malnutrition has increased as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government are taking to tackle the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) and (b) An analysis of the comparative value of consumption of broad groups of food items per person for a period of 30 days based on the data gathered by the NSS in their 43rd round (7/87 to 6/88), 50th round (7/93 to 6/94) and 55th round (7/99 to 6/2000) reveals that while the per capita expenditure on food in the country has increased in absolute terms, in real terms, there may have been a marginal decline, due to an increase in the per capita expenditure on non-food items.

(c) Data collected in the surveys for the period from 1975 till 2000 indicates that over the last three decades there has not been any substantial change in dietary intake of the population. Over this period, there is some reduction in under nutrition in all age groups.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Warehousing Corporation of India

3608. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Warehousing Corporation of India provides consultancy

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

service for construction and management of Warehouses in the country and abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Warehousing Corporation of India has entered into agreements with the foreign countries in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) and (b) The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) provides consultancy services and execution of work for construction of warehouses in the country. The CWC has so far provided consultancy to the following institutions for construction of warehouses/godowns :–

(i) For construction of godowns on behalf of Food & Civil Supplies, Delhi Government at Ghazipur during 1988-89.

(ii) Construction of Super Bazar at Palam Gaon under the Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies.

(iii) Construction of godowns at various places in the State of Uttaranchal under the Government of U.P. and Government of Uttaranchal.

Recently, the CWC has offered its services for supervision and consultancy for construction of godowns in Rural areas under Gramin Bhandaran Yojana under the subsidiary scheme of Central Government to be financed by commercial/NABARD Bank.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Policy for accepting foreign food aid

3609. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need for clear policy on accepting foreign food aid;

(b) whether there is recent rejection of a large shipment of food from